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LETTER DATED 9 JANUARY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued on 7 January 1998 by the Presidency of the European Union on the massacre of civilians at Rukaramu, Burundi.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) John WESTON
Permanent Representative of
the United Kingdom
to the United Nations

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Annex

Statement issued on 7 January 1998 by the Presidency of the European Union on the massacre of civilians at Rukaramu, Burundi

The European Union condemns in the strongest possible terms the attack on the village of Rukaramu, near Bujumbura. It deplores this barbaric attack which resulted in very heavy civilian casualties, including a large number of deaths.

The European Union fully supports the efforts of the United Nations Human Rights Field Operation in Burundi to investigate the massacre and looks forward to an early, independent assessment by the Operation.

The European Union urges all parties fully to respect human rights, to engage in a dialogue with a view to promoting reconciliation and bringing to an end the political problems of Burundi, so that all the people of Burundi may build a peaceful, prosperous and secure future.